



**Lyme Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Blake Allison (chair), Tom Colgan, Sue MacKenzie (Selectboard Representative), Meg Sheehan, Lee Larson, Ian Smith, Matt Stevens (Secretary). I. Smith and L. Larson were appointed as voting members for the meeting.

Public present: Nicholas Dankers

1. Review and Approve Minutes from 2018-09-10

On motion from S. MacKenzie, second from I. Smith minutes were accepted with one abstention (T. Colgan not present at Sept 9 meeting).

2. Land Protection and Easements

- **No Items Submitted**

3. Trails and Land Management

- **Big Rock Knotweed Eradication Project** – M. Sheehan reports that a total of 7 people attended the workshop led by Mike Bald on September 22. A section of streambank from the big rock downstream about 100 yards was cleared of knotweed. M. Sheehan returned the following weekend to continue working downstream. Trisha Gautreau (3rd grade teacher) has expressed interest in having the Forest Fridays program help with the project. Rob Wipfler (Kingswood Camp) has also offered to bring campers to help during summers. M. Sheehan suggests that the Commission should form a town-wide working group specifically to work on NNIP projects in town, with possible funding assistance from a Lyme Foundation grant. The Commission supports the proposal.
- **Conservation Fund Withdrawal to Fund This Past Summer' Projects** – Chair Allison reports that the CC budget is depleted after project work this summer and needs to withdraw \$540 from the Conservation Fund to cover remaining financial obligations (\$100 to Snellings for maintaining Hewes Brook boat launch area and \$440 to Alfred Balch for mowing the Chaffee Sanctuary meadows). \$428 can come from the Chaffee Sanctuary line item in the CF and the remainder from the general CF. On motion from L. Larson and second from S. MacKenzie, the Commission votes to approve the withdrawal.
- **Lyme/Orford Boundary Perambulation Lyme/Orford Boundary Perambulation** – Chair Allison reminds the group that by NH Statute, the town is responsible for checking town boundaries every 7 years, including 2018. A group will begin the perambulation of the Orford-Lyme boundary on Saturday, October 13 and hopes to complete the task over the subsequent two Saturdays.



4. Project and Application Review

- **Reservoir Pond Setback Issue w/Wayne Pike** – Chair Allison reports that Roberta and Wayne Pike have applied to the ZBA for a Special Exception to remove an old, stone retaining wall on their property at 645 Dorchester Road (Tax Map 421/Lot 5) that abuts Reservoir Pond. Chair Allison said the proposed project would remove the existing retaining wall, add loam that would be brought to the existing grade and the area then would be seeded. All work would occur within Reservoir Pond's 250-foot shoreland protection district. He said that because the work did not involve adding a structure or impervious surface his recommendation was that the Conservation Commission should not intervene. Allison said that if the other commission members agreed, he would send a letter to the ZBA indicating the Con Com had no objections to the project as long as the work was performed observing "best practices." There was unanimous agreement that Allison's recommendation should be accepted.

5. Outreach and Education

- **No Items Submitted**

6. Other Business

- **NHEC Vegetation Control Concerns** – Some landowners have expressed concern about ROW maintenance using herbicide. The NHEC contractor cannot apply herbicide on private land (w/ROW easement) without express permission from landowner (landowners must opt-in).
- **LCC Secretary Needed** – M. Stevens will relinquish the role after the regular October meeting. L. Larson suggests that the duty can be rotated among Commissioners. It is also noted that the Commission currently has one vacant regular commissioner seat. All commissioners will seek potential candidates as well as anyone interested in being an Alternate on the Commission.

7. Publicity

- **Lyme Community and Church News Item** – B. Allison will submit a piece for the newsletter

8. Adjournment

On motion from M. Stevens and second from T. Colgan the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Matthew Stevens".

Matt Stevens, Secretary

The next regular meeting of the Lyme Conservation Commission will be held on November 5, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the Lyme Academy building.